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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, IAEA
SUBJECT: IAEA FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING: CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI
REF: (A) STATE 42015, (B) VIENNA 1355

SUMMARY: AS ANTICIPATED REF B, BOARD DISCUSSION OF
PROPOSAL TO AMEND ARTICLE VI WAS PRO-FORMA EXERCISE
DESIGNED TO SET STAGE FOR FURTHER INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE. NO RPT NO NEW PROPOSAL WAS TABLED.
ONLY REPS OF DEVELOPING STATES PARTICIPATED IN BOARD
DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.
1. FOLLOWING CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION OF AGENDA ITEM ON
ARTICLE VI, IN WHICH HE ALLUDED TO 1977 GC RESOLUTION
REQUESTING BOARD TO CONSIDER MATTER FURTHER, PAKISTAN
GOVERNOR (KHAN) LED OFF DISCUSSION WITH LENGTHY
REHASH OF ARGUMENTS, BY NOW FAMILIAR TO HIS LISTENERS
AS WELL AS TO ADDRESSEES, FAVORING ADDITIONAL SEATS
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FOR AREAS OF AF AND MESA. SUMMARIZED, THESE ARE AS
FOLLOWS: TWO AREAS ARE GROSSLY UNDERREPRESENTED
NUMERICALLY ON BOARD WHICH IS VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLE,
CONTAINED IN STATUTE, OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC
DISTRIBUTION. IF SITUATION NOT RECTIFIED, LARGE
NUMBER OF STATES WOULD FEEL GROWING RESENTMENT AND
RESPECT FOR BOARD WOULD DIMINISH. CO-SPONSORS OF

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BOARD ENLARGEMENT (23 IN NUMBER) HAD THEREFORE
PROPOSED "MINIMAL INCREASE" IN REPRESENTATION OF
TWO AREAS AT NO RPT NO COST TO REPRESENTATION OF
OTHER GEOGRAPHIC AREAS AND WITHOUT ADDRESSING
QUESTION OF DESIGNATED BOARD MEMBERS. KHAN
CONCLUDED BY REQUESTING CHAIRMAN TO CONTINUE
INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS IN EFFORT TO REACH ACCEPTABLE
SOLUTION. SUPPORTING BRIEF STATEMENTS WERE DELIVERED
BY REPS OF TUNISIA, IRAN, EGYPT, NIGER, GHANA, KUWAIT,
INDIA AND NIGERIA, LAST OF WHOM NOTED THAT "POLITICI-
ZATION" OF AGENCY WHICH SOME MEMBERS DEPLORED, WAS
WELCOME EVIDENCE THAT AGENCY WAS BECOMING MORE
RESPONSIVE TO MEMBERSHIP. REPS OF ARGENTINA AND
PERU SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE
REPRESENTATION OF OTHER AREAS ON BOARD. CHAIRMAN
CONCLUDED DISCUSSION, AS EXPECTED, BY STATING THAT
HE WOULD HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON MATTER BETWEEN
NOW AND JUNE.

2. AS FORESEEN PARA 3 REF B, AMBASSADOR SMITH AND
DELOFFS MET PRIVATELY WITH GOVERNORS OF PAKISTAN
AND EGYPT BEFORE BOARD DISCUSSION. AMBASSADOR SATTAR
OPENED BY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR WHAT CO-SPONSORS
HAD PERCEIVED TO BE "COOPERATIVE" ATTITUDE ON PART OF
U.S. IN PAST IN EFFORTS TO FIND ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION
AND THEIR HOPES THAT THE COOPERATION WOULD CONTINUE.
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HE OBSERVED THAT CONCERNS RE "POLITICIZATION" WERE
OVERDRAWN; SOUTH AFRICA ISSUE WAS ONLY INSTANCE
IN RECENT YEARS OF A POLITICAL ISSUE WHICH HAD
PROVOKED A VOTE IN BOARD AND CO-SPONSORS WERE NOT
RPT NOT ANXIOUS TO SEE FURTHER POLITICIZATION.
KHAN INTERJECTED THAT CO-SPONSORS REALIZED THAT
THREE-PLUS-TWO PROPOSAL, EVEN THOUGH BASED ON
APPROPRIATE NUMERICAL PROPORTIONS, HAD PROVEN
UNACCEPTABLE TO OTHERS. CO-SPONSORS HAD THEREFORE
LOWERED THEIR SIGHTS TO ONE-PLUS-ONE, WHICH LA
STATES HAD SAID THEY COULD SIT STILL FOR.
3. SMITH RESPONDED THAT U.S. ALWAYS WELCOMED
OOPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS FRANKLY. HOWEVER,
PROPOSAL FOR BOARD ENLARGEMENT SHOULD BE WEIGHED
AGAINST GROWING RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCY,
PARTICULARLY AFTER INFCE PROGRAM, AND CONSEQUENT
GREATER NEED FOR EFFECTIVE AGENCY MANAGEMENT.
ENLARGEMENT OF BOARD WOULD INTRODUCE ELEMENT OF
INSTABILITY WHICH WOULD SERIOUSLY TROUBLE U.S.
CONGRESS WHICH HAD ALREADY TAKEN NOTE OF FOLITICAL
TRENDS WITHIN AGENCY. SMITH

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